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12 March 1960



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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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12 MARCH 1960

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

II. ASIA-AFRICA

UAR would support Cuban complaint in UN in the event of US action on Cuban sugar quota but urges Castro to try to improve relations with US and Latin American countries.

General Ne Win postpones US visit; concerned about incoming U Nu government. ②

South Vietnam-- Communist terrorism in southern provinces widespread. ③

- ①
- ②
- ③



III. THE WEST

④ French agricultural interests, angry over farm prices, are trying to press De Gaulle for special parliamentary session.



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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

12 March 1960

## DAILY BRIEF

### I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

#### II. ASIA-AFRICA

UAR-Cuba: [redacted]

[redacted] instructed [redacted] to urge Cuba to make every effort to improve its relations with the United States and Latin America before lodging its projected complaint in the United Nations in the event of future US action on the Cuban sugar quota. [redacted] the UAR would support such a complaint if made. [redacted]  
(Page 1)

South Vietnam: Incidents of Communist terrorist activity in the southern provinces continue to be widespread, and are eroding popular confidence in the government's ability to maintain security in the affected areas. [redacted] (Page 2)

Burma: [General Ne Win, the outgoing premier, has postponed his visit to the United States for medical treatment. Ne Win feels his presence in Burma is necessary to ensure the smooth transfer of government and has expressed strong reservations about the incoming government of former Premier U Nu. He has served notice on U Nu that he would seize control again if conditions required it.] [redacted] (Page 3)

#### III. THE WEST

France: Agricultural interests, increasingly angry over farm prices, are trying to press De Gaulle into a special session of parliament which might prove an embarrassing accompaniment to the Khrushchev visit. They claim to have 260 of

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the 277 deputies' signatures necessary to call such a session. The US Embassy believes that a De Gaulle refusal to agree to the deputies' petition would strengthen antigovernment extremists, who last month used a farmer demonstration to precipitate violence. [REDACTED] (Page 4)

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DAILY BRIEF

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## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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## II. ASIA-AFRICA

### UAR-Cuban Relations

The UAR has told its ambassador in Havana to advise Cuban officials that it would back a projected Cuban complaint to the United Nations in the event of future US action on the Cuban sugar quota, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The ambassador was told to urge Havana, however, to make every effort to improve its relations with the United States and Latin America before lodging such a complaint.

Cairo, although anxious to maintain favor with the Cuban Government, appears to be exercising caution in its political relations with the Castro regime. The UAR is sensitive to the anti-Castro sentiment expressed by representatives of other Latin American countries. Cairo has been enlarging its effort to gain friends throughout the area, hoping to gain sympathy for its neutralist policies and support in the various controversies in which the UAR is involved before the United Nations. It is also attempting a considerable increase in its economic activities in the area.

The UAR has expressed approval of Castro's highly publicized plans for a Havana conference of underdeveloped nations, but has warned Cuba against inviting attendance by Communist states. Cairo has also advocated a conference agenda sticking to strictly nonpolitical themes, which would give Cuba less opportunity to stage an "anti-imperialist" show. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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~~SECRET~~Communist Terrorism in South Vietnam Intensifies

The growing aggressiveness of the estimated 3,000 Vietnamese Communist guerrillas in South Vietnam is highlighted by recent attacks in the vicinity of Saigon. On 7 March a well-armed Communist band of about 200 men and women pillaged a hospital about 15 miles north of Saigon, making off with medicine, money, and equipment. The Communists harangued the staff on how the Diem government and the Americans were "ruining the country." [Earlier in March, twenty Communists, in a daylight assault on a militia post about six miles southwest of Saigon, killed three men and took eighteen rifles.]

These incidents are symptomatic of the marked deterioration in security of southern and southwestern provinces, particularly since a successful raid by about 300 Communists on a regimental cantonment last January. Vietnamese security forces have had several stiff encounters in recent weeks with sizable guerrilla forces. The increase in ambushes and attacks against government patrols and security posts, assassinations of local officials and villagers, and sabotage [tends to support South Vietnamese estimates that the Communists intend to eliminate Saigon's control over the countryside in these provinces.] [President Diem apparently is convinced that the Communists have opened "all-out guerrilla war."] There are reports of possible additional infiltration, by land and sea, of Communist guerrillas from North Vietnam.

[Unless the government can check Communist terrorism, the loyalty of the local population--already strained by high-handed behavior of provincial officials--will be further eroded, opening the way to the extensive control of the countryside which the Communists exerted under French rule.]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Retiring Premier Fears for Burma's Future 

[General Ne Win, who is to turn the government of Burma back to U Nu in April, has postponed for several months a planned visit to the United States for medical treatment. He feels that his personal supervision is necessary to ensure the smooth transfer of government and has expressed serious reservations over Burma's prospects under his successor. Ne Win ousted Nu in October 1958 to halt Burma's drift toward economic chaos and civil war.]

[Ne Win considers Burma's political leaders inept or corrupt. He had hoped that the February elections would produce two balanced parties in parliament instead of the landslide victory for Nu's following. Since the elections he has felt it necessary to warn Nu bluntly that to forestall a return to the chaotic conditions of 1958 he is prepared to seize control of the government again. During Soviet Premier Khrushchev's recent visit to Rangoon, he declined an invitation to visit Moscow, saying, "At present I am busy preparing for a change of government; after that I will be too occupied to visit Moscow."]

[General Ne Win apparently feels that U Nu personally may be Burma's most serious problem in the immediate future. In a conversation with Ambassador Snow, he recently described Nu as a "very dangerous man... not entirely sane--loose and vague at times mentally... shrewd and calculating... petulant and changeable... quite willing to play one person or country off against another." He feels that Nu may have difficulty in forming an adequate government because of the paucity of able men in his party.]

[General Ne Win clearly believes that the future stability and growth of Burma will be dependent upon control and supervision of politicians by the army. He hopes to exercise that supervision, however, without direct participation in the government]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

III. THE WESTFrench Farmers Pressing De Gaulle for Special Parliamentary Session

French agricultural interests, increasingly angry over declining farm prices and the government's continuing refusal to reinstate a price system tied to the cost-of-living index, now claim to have 260 of the 277 deputies' signatures necessary to call a special session of the French parliament before the scheduled opening on 26 April. Farmer discontent has already led to a number of demonstrations, including the Amiens riot in February which was exploited by rightist opponents of De Gaulle's Algerian policy. The farmers apparently hope to extract concessions at a time when, in view of Khrushchev's impending arrival, the government presumably is anxious to avoid any display of parliamentary hostility.

The government objects that farmer demands are inflationary and would lead to a new round of price increases and wage demands. It seeks to mollify the farmers with a bill providing for increased government assistance in agricultural modernization, education, marketing, and distribution. It insists, however, that farm commodity prices must be related to farm costs, instead of to the cost-of-living index. Premier Debré is trying to accelerate drafting of the government bill to permit early consideration by the agricultural committee in parliament, and he may try to get agreement for a special session of parliament to convene a few days before 26 April.

The embassy believes that if De Gaulle, as Debré has hinted, refuses to act on the deputies' petition for a special session, a dangerous breach between the government and assembly will result and mass farmer agitation will be renewed. Rightists who oppose De Gaulle's invitation to Khrushchev see farm discontent as a vehicle for embarrassing the President. Moreover, left and center parties, who believe De Gaulle's recent tough statements on Algeria indicate a backward step from a liberal settlement, may view a special session of parliament as an opportunity to attack the government on Algerian policy.

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Scientific Adviser to the President

Director of the Budget

Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination

Chairman, Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

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Executive Secretary, National Security Council

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The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Administration

The Counselor

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The Deputy Secretary of Defense

Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

The Director, The Joint Staff

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Assistant to Secretary of Defense for Special Operations

Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

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Commander in Chief, Pacific

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The Director

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**National Indications Center**

The Director

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